



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone: (605) 773-3478
Fax: (605) 773-3194

August 20, 2002
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Winder
(605) 773-3478

Autopsy Shows State Prison Inmate Died of Heart Failure

(Pierre)- A preliminary autopsy shows an inmate at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls died of heart failure.

Gerald Thies, age 69, was found in his cell at approximately noon Sunday. Penitentiary medical staff efforts to revive him were unsuccessful.

Thies was serving a 25 year sentence for criminal pedophilia out of Pennington County.